

Ex # 246

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NO. 35

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afternoon, 19.9.

Received in the forenoon,  
20. 9.

To Foreign Minister Shidehara from Minister Shigemitsu

No. 9867 (Urgent, strictly confidential)

With reference to my telegram No. 974.

The proposal of Soong may not at once serve our purpose in the present urgency of the situation in Manchuria, but it may strengthen our general stand in regard to the incident.

Besides, it may not only be usefully taken advantage of in future, but also may serve as a balk against any radical change of atmosphere on the Chinese side. I am, therefore, of opinion that

the proposal should be quickly accepted in principle. Your instruction is awaited by return of telegram. The constitution of the commission, for instance, may be left to a further consideration.

Reported to Mukden, Nanking and Peiping.